

39897 to 39924—Continued. (Quoted notes by Mr. F. N. Meyer.)

sharp sour taste; contains plenty of large seeds. These sour mandarin fruits make a very pleasing 'ade cut up, rind and all, in a tumbler of water with some sugar added. They also taste well when cut up in slices in hot tea, while a few pieces of rind added to a soup or stew give a novel and agreeable flavor.

"The trees are of thrifty growth, making large heads of dark-green foliage; they are prolific bearers, apparently; young shoots armed with large spines. They are not grafted or budded, but propagated from seeds only. This citrus is found at altitudes of 2,000 to 4,500 feet, and where they grow one finds the following trees cultivated: *Diospyros kaki*; *Ficus carica*; *Punica granatum*; *Juglans regia*; *Pyrus sinensis*; *Morus alba*; *Hocconia dulcis*; *Ligustrum lucidum*; *Trachycarpus excelsus*; and *Phyllostachys* sp. Of value, possibly, as a tree for the home garden in sections north of the citrus belt proper."

For an illustration of this interesting fruit, see Plate III.

39898. AMYGDALUS TANGUTICA (Bat.) Korsh. Amygdalaceæ. Almond.
(*Prunus tangutica* Koehne.)

"(No. 1222. Village of Lantsai (near Hsiku), Kansu, China. October 28, 1914.) A bush almond found in rocks and cliffs along the right bank of the Hsiku River, collected at an altitude of 4,200 feet. Shrubs from 4 to 10 feet high, in sheltered places reaching even a height of 20 to 25 feet; densely branched, branches often zigzag running and ending in spines. Foliage small and of a glaucous green color. Fruits very variable in size, looks, and shape; skin downy and thin; stones ranging in size from that of a cherry stone up to a good-sized apricot stone, of many forms, some round and quite smooth, others pointed or heart shaped and grooved like peach stones, shells moderately thin, kernels small on the average and quite bitter; they are, however, eagerly collected by ground squirrels. Here and there local Chinese also collect them and express a clear oil from the kernels for culinary purposes. These kernels are also sparingly eaten after having been boiled first, so as to remove part of the bitter flavor.

"This Tangutian almond occurs in many places in the Province of Kansu, growing at altitudes of 4,000 to 10,000 feet. They are able to withstand a great degree of drought, cold, and dry heat. It is recommended as a factor in certain hybridization experiments, trying to create hardy bush almonds. As a stock for almonds it might be tested, but since it throws up many shoots from the base it may not have any commercial value. As a hedge plant for dry regions it also possesses value, while as an ornamental spring-flowering shrub it possibly could be employed in gardens and parks in the cooler parts of the semiarid United States. Chinese name *Yeh hsiao hsing*, meaning 'wild small apricot'; also *Mao t'ao*, meaning 'hairy peach.'"

For an illustration of these almonds as grown in China, see Plate IV.

39899. AMYGDALUS PERSICA POTANINI (Bat.) Ricker. Amygdalaceæ.

(*Prunus persica potanini* Batal.)

Potanin's peach.

"(No. 1223. From village of Tchutsaitze (near Hsiku), Kansu, China. October 29, 1914.) A wild peach of the *dauidiana* type, but differing from the last in various points. Collected at the base of sheltered mountains at an altitude of 4,300 feet. A tall shrub or even small tree, up to 30 feet in height bark of stem or trunk dark reddish